



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Attorney Docket No. 2005_1690A
Masahiro GOTO et al. : Confirmation No. 2837.
Serial No. 10/554,204 : Group Art Unit 1794
Filed December 13, 2005 : Examiner Timothy M. Speer
COPPER OXIDE THIN FILM LOW-FRICTION MATERIAL AND FILM-FORMING METHOD THEREFOR : Mail Stop: AMENDMENT

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of June 9, 2009, the time for responding thereto being extended for three months in accordance with a Petition for Extension of Time submitted herewith, Applicants submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the presently claimed invention over the disclosure of the reference relied upon by the Examiner in rejecting the claims. Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of these remarks.

Thus, the rejection of claims 9-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Goto et al. ("Lubricative Coatings of Copper Oxide for Aerospace Application", J. Appl. Phys., 94(3), August 1, 2003) is respectfully traversed.

This reference was published August 1, 2003, between the filing dates of Applicants' Japanese priority application (April 24, 2003) and the PCT application (April 23, 2004) on which the present U.S. application is based. Accordingly, Applicants can overcome the use of the Goto et al. reference as prior art against the present invention, by obtaining the benefit of the filing date of their Japanese priority application. For this purpose, Applicants are enclosing a verified English translation of the priority application. [The Examiner has already acknowledged receipt of a copy of the certified copy of the priority document.] Applicants take the position that, in